IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 25, 1861.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Lane made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. 569.]

The Committee on Military Affairs and the Militia, to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. Anne M. Smith, widow of General Persifer F. Smith, having had the same under consideration, report:

This is a claim brought by the widow of General P. F. Smith for compensation for extraordinary services rendered by him in California and Oregon in 1849, in the collection and disbursement of public moneys while he was in the military command of the Pacific division of the United States Army.

General Smith was appointed to the command of California and Oregon in 1848, and entered upon the duties in 1849. After the conquest of California a temporary government was formed, and General Smith there established a system of revenue upon the commerce of that country, and collected large amounts of money by taxation and other-

wise for the support of the Army.

Those duties were necessarily intricate and responsible, and attended with a great deal of labor and correspondence, as will be seen from his journals, performing all the while his important duties of commander and civil and military governor to the great satisfaction of the country. For all these extraordinary services he received no compensation whatever, while paymasters, collectors, receivers, &c., under the several acts of Congress, were handsomely paid for similar services. It is for this service that his widow now presents her claim, and the committee finding precedents for allowing it in the cases of Riley and of Mason, whose duties were similar to those of General Smith, report a bill for her relief and recommend its passage.